

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CU-02 /070 W

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P R 270848Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1005

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4709

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION

REF: A SEOUL 3507 B SEOUL 4475 C SEOUL 4337

1. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WILL BEGIN SPECIAL SESSION
JUNE 28. INTERPELLATIONS SCHEDULED JULY 1-3 AND
COMMITTEE DELIBERATION OF BILLS JULY 4-7. SESSION WILL END
JULY 8.

2. GOVERNMENT PLANS TO PASS 15 BILLS WITH EMPHASIS ON
NATIONAL SECURITY. SEVERAL BILLS EXPECTED TO
SIGNIFICANTLY EXTEND LEGAL CONTROLS OVER POPULATION,
REGARDLESS OF CONTINUATION EMERGENCY MEASURES.

(A) THE "SOCIAL SECURITY" LAW WILL GIVE GOVERNMENT
POWER TO DETAIN AND CONTROL FORMER PRISONERS WITH
"COMMUNIST SYMPATHIES." LAW MAY ALSO APPLY TO
OTHER, SO FAR UNDEFINED, FORMER PRISONERS.

(B) CIVIL DEFENSE LAW WILL CREATE PARA-MILITARY
CORPS MADE UP OF MOST MEN UNDER AGE 50 (REF C).

(C) CIVIL DEFENSE TAX BILL WILL RAISE MONEY FROM
BUSINESSES FOR NEW CORPS (ASSEMBLY SOURCE TELLS
US BUDGET FOR CORPS WILL BE OF CONSIDERABLE SIZE).

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(D) AMENDMENT TO EDUCATION LAW (REF B) WILL

ELIMINATE TENURE FOR UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS.

(E) AMENDMENT TO RADIO CONTROL LAW WILL PERMIT
ROK TO REVOKE LICENSE OF STATION FINED BY RADIO
ETHICS COMMITTEE.

3. NDP PROPOSES LEGISLATION TO FORM JOINT INVESTIGATIVE
COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION.
OPPOSITION ALSO WISHES TO RESTORE RIGHT OF LEGIS-
LATIVE INSPECTION OF ADMINISTRATION WHICH WAS
ELIMINATED BY YUSHIN CONSTITUTION. GOVERNMENT PARTIES
DECLARE INTENTION TO BLOCK NDP PROPOSALS FOR
JOINT INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE; THEY ALSO DECLARE
LEGISLATIVE INSPECTION UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

4. DURING LAST SPECIAL SESSION, WHICH ENDED MAY 21
WITH PASSAGE BIPARTISAN NATIONAL SECURITY RESOLUTION,
OPPOSITION AGREED TO POSTPONE DEBATE ON MAJOR
POLITICAL ISSUES. NDP SOURCES HAVE TOLD US THAT
DURING COMING SESSION THEY WILL RESUME OPPOSITION
TO GOVT POLICY, INCLUDING EMERGENCY MEASURE NINE
AND ABOVE GOVT PROPOSED BILLS. NDP SPOKESMAN YI
TAEK-TON HAS TOLD US THAT CONTINUING PREOCCUPATION
WITH SECURITY SITUATION WILL PRECLUDE OPPOSITION
FROM PHYSICALLY CONFRONTING GOVERNMENT AS THEY HAVE
IN PAST, BUT NDP MAY BOYCOTT VOTE ON OBJECTIONABLE
LAWS.

5. GOVT AND OPPOSITION HAVE HAD NO SUCCESS IN
RECONCILING DIFFERENCES AND FINDING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE
WORDING OF BILLS. NDP CONTINUES TO BE WORRIED OVER
EXTENSIVE REGULATORY POWERS CONTAINED IN NDW LAWS,
AND MOST LOCAL POLITICAL OBSERVERS EXPECT SOME VERBAL
CONFRONTATION ON ASSEMBLY FLOOR. HOWEVER, GOVT IS
EXPECTED TO PASS ITS BILLS WITH ONLY LIMITED OPPOSITION,
SINCE OPPOSITION STILL UNDER OVERRIDING CONSTRAINTS
OF NATIONAL SECURITY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, LEGISLATIVE BILLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL04709
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750223-0088
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975069/aaaaahns.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 A SEOUL 3507, 75 B SEOUL 4475, 75 C SEOUL 4337
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION
TAGS: PGOV, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006